

**Missouri Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)**  
**Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Guide**  
**Savanna Community Model**

**Applicant(s):****Date:****Farm Number:****Tract Number:****Field Number(s):****County:**

**Instructions:** Answer each of the questions (1 - 7) below by circling the appropriate points for both the existing and planned conditions. N/A = Not Applicable in the Wildlife Habitat Development Plan (WHDP), CSG = Cool Season Grasses, NWSG = Native Warm Season Grasses

**Points if  
Existing**

**Points if  
Planned**

**Herbaceous Canopy Cover**

(1)	Calculate the % canopy coverage of native herbaceous vegetation (grasses, forbs, legumes, sedges)		
	Foliage covers more than 50% of the ground	10	10
	Foliage covers 25 to 50% of the ground	5	5
	Foliage covers less than 25% of the ground	0	N/A

**Herbaceous Canopy Cover Points**

**Tree Size Class and Canopy Coverage**

(2)	Sawtimber - open canopy (less than 50% coverage)	10	10
	Pole - open canopy (less than 50% coverage)	6	6
	Reproduction - open canopy (less than 50% coverage)	4	4
	Sawtimber/reproduction - closed canopy (more than 50% coverage)	2	N/A
	Pole - closed canopy (more than 50% coverage)	0	N/A

**Tree Size Class and Canopy Coverage Points**

**Grazing or Haying Use**

(3)	Light to none, but includes periodic burns	10	10
	Moderate (3 to 6 inches CSG winter height; 8 to 10 inches NWSG winter height)	5	N/A
	Heavy Use/All other	0	N/A

**Grazing or Haying Use Points**

**Grassland Composition**

(4)	Mixed NWSG and forbs (minimum of 4 species mix), with less than 25% introduced CSG	10	10
	Mixed NWSG and forbs (minimum of 2 species mix), with less than 25% introduced CSG	8	8
	Mixed grasses with legumes and forbs	6	6
	Mixed CSG; native grass monotype; bromegrass; timothy; orchardgrass; mixed grasses; predominant legumes	4	4
	Fescue monotype (more than 50% fescue) or non-native WSG	0	N/A

**Grassland Composition Points**

**Desirable Forb Diversity**

(5)	More than 20 species	10	10
	10 to 20 species	6	6
	5 to 10 species	4	4
	Less than 5 species	0	N/A

**Desirable Forb Diversity Points**

**Understory Canopy Coverage**

(6)	Less than 15%	10	10
	15 to 25 %	5	5
	More than 25%	0	N/A

**Understory Canopy Coverage Points**

**Problem Introduced Species**

(7)	Abundance of one or all species: Sericea lespedeza, Reed canarygrass, Musk thistle, Canada thistle, teasel		
	None	10	10
	Rare to occasional	5	5
	Common to abundant	0	N/A

**Problem Introduced Species Points**

**Total Points Planned and Existing (Maximum score possible is 70) =**

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**Scoring**

(8) Existing Index = Total Existing Points/70 (70 is the maximum possible score)

Total existing points =

**Existing Index =**

(9) Planned WHIP Contract Index = Total Planned Score/70 (70 is the maximum possible score)

Total planned score =

**Planned Community Type Index =**

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